IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: Rui B. FERREIRA et al

Serial No. 09/341,635

Filing Date: July 14, 1999

Examiner: N. Torres Velazquez

Group Art Unit: 1771

For: Wet-Laid Nonwoven Web From Unpulped Natural Fibers And Composite

JAN 3 0 2002

Containing Same

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

" C 7;

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

In response to the Office Action dated October 10, 2001, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendment and consideration of the following remarks.

AMENDMENT

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Cancel claim 1 without prejudice to filing in a later application.

- 2. (amended) The nonwoven web material of claim [1] 5 wherein the natural fiber bundles are cordage fibers.
- 3. (twice amended) The nonwoven web material of claim [1] 5 wherein the natural fiber bundles are selected from sisal, abaca, henequen, kenaf and jute.